

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Investigation on the Commission's own Motion into the Operations, Practices, Rates and Charges of Hillview Water Company, Inc., a corporation, and Roger L. Forrester, the Principal Shareholder and President.

Investigation 97-07-018  
(Filed July 16, 1997)

**JOINT RULING OF THE ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE CONCERNING COMMISSION STAFF  
REPRESENTATION AND EX PARTE CONTACTS**

The assigned commissioner and administrative law judge (ALJ), having considered the Notice of Substitution of Commission Staff of Record filed January 11, 2002; the Response thereto by Hillview Water Company, Inc., filed January 31, 2002; the ALJ's Ruling on Procedural Matters filed February 6, 2002; the Water Division's (WD) Responses to that Ruling, filed February 19, 2002; the Response to WD's Response, filed February 20, 2002; and the letter from Roger L. Forrester to Mohsen Kazemzadeh, dated February 25, 2002,

**HEREBY JOINTLY RULE** that:

1. The substitution of Water Division (WD) for the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) as the Commission staff of record in this proceeding, and the substitution of Robert Cagen for Peter Fairchild as counsel of record, are permitted on the following conditions:

- a. The ban on ex parte communications imposed by the Administrative Law Judge at the prehearing conference of November 15, 2001, remains in effect.

- b. The following persons, who are anticipated to participate in the proceeding in an advocacy role, shall have no ex parte contact with any decisionmaker until the Commission's final order is issued:

- (1) Mohsen Kazemzadeh
- (2) Nathaniel Cole
- (3) Ishwar Garg
- (4) Robert Cagen

Any person not specifically named shall not be considered to be serving in an advocacy role in this proceeding.

- c. No person who is serving as an advisor in this proceeding may appear or serve in any advocacy role in this proceeding.
- d. If any Commission staff member not specifically identified herein as an advocate later assumes duties as an advocate, WD shall immediately file and serve a notice advising all parties of that fact, and he or she shall not make any ex parte contact.

2. The respondents shall immediately furnish responses to the questions propounded by WD on February 22, 2002, and to any further inquiries or data requests by WD concerning the subject matter of this proceeding.

Dated March 13, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ HENRY M. DUQUE

Henry M. Duque  
Assigned Commissioner

/s/ VICTOR D. RYERSON

Victor D. Ryerson  
Administrative Law Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Joint Ruling of the Assigned Commissioner and Administrative Law Judge Concerning Commission Staff Representation and Ex Parte Contacts on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated March 13, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.